Amount spent on the National Highways in Kerala

1112. SHRI THENNALA BALAKRISHNA PILLAI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent in the National Highways in the State of Kerala in the last two years;

(b) whether the allotted fund was totally utilised; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) Amount allocated to Government of Kerala for development and maintenance and repairs of National Highways during the last two years is as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Development	Maintenance & Repairs
1994-95	3124.95	924.10
1995-96	4310.00	863.88

(b) and (c) The funds allocated have not been surrendered.

Women Pilots in IAF

1113. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of women pilots in the Indian Air Force at present,

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government to induct more women fighter pilots in the Indian Air Force; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) The total number of women pilots in the Indian Air Force is 26 as on 1.7.96.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Redressal of Grievances of Telephone Subscribers in Delhi

1114. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of telephone faults complaints made by subscribers of South-Delhi and which have not been removed even after passage of more than one month; and

(b) the details of ways to compensate such subscribers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) At present, there is no fault pending in South Delhi for more than one month.

(b) Every efforts is made to clear the faults at the earliest. However, in cases, where the telephone remains faulty for more than 7 days, rebate in rental is granted.

Vacant Post of CMD in Shipping Corporation of India

1115. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the post of CMD of Shipping Corporation of India is lying vacant;

(b) whether it is a fact there were three officiating chief during the last one year; and

(c) by when Government are likely to appoint a permanent CMD?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The process to fill up the post on regular basis has already been initiated.

Representation of Muslims in Rapid Action Force

1116. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps being taken by Government to ensure sufficient representation of Muslims in the Rapid Action Force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOL DAR): RAF is an integral part of CRPF. The composition of RAF is maintained in such a way that all communities get adequate representation including minorities. Wide publicity of recruitment programmes is given amongst the members of minority communities including Muslims through advertisement and by giving information through voluntary agencies promoting welfare of such communities.

बिहार में मधुबनी और झंझारपुर जिलों में टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज योजना

1117. श्री रामदेव भंडारी: क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिहार के मधुबनी और झंझारपुर जिलों में क्रमश: दस हजार और दो हजार लाइनों वाले टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज लगाने की योजना को मंजूरी दी जा चुकी है;

(ख) क्या सरकार द्वारा तीन महीनों के अंदर एक्सचेंज लगाने की संभावना है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

संचार मंत्री (श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा): (क) से (ग) जी नहीं। उच्चतर क्षमता के एक्सचेंजों की कोई पर्याप्त मांग नहीं है। तथापि, मधुबनी में 2000 लाइनों वाले एक इलेक्ट्रानिक एक्सचेंज का संस्थापन कार्य चल रहा है जिसके अक्टूबर, 1996 तक चालू कर दिए जाने की संभावना है और झंझारपुर में वर्ष 1997-98 में 1000 लाइनों के एक इलेक्ट्रानिक एक्सचेंज की योजना बना ली गई है।

Development of Works of Ports in Eighth Five Year Plan

1118. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the outlays provided for in the Eighth Five Year Plan for developmental works for major Ports in the country;

(b) out of the same, how much has been utilized;

(c) the main features of developmental works carried out during the last five years Port-wise; and

(d) the details of modernization of Port facilities and updated technology achieved so far during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) During 8th Five Year Plan, an outlay of Rs. 3216 crores has been provided for development in Port Sector. As against this around Rs. 1369 crores have been utilised so far.

(c) During the last five years, a number of projects relating to construction of multi-purpose/general cargo berths, coal jetties and deepening of channel have been commissioned, raising the total cargo handling capacity of the Major Ports to 177 million tonnes. In addion two virtual jetties for handling POL products have also been put up by the oil companies at Kandla. 30 new schemes costing about Rs. 2147 crores have been sanctioned so far for providing port facilities at Major Ports in the 8th Plan and will add a capacity of 42 million tonnes over the Eighth and early Ninth Plan periods.

(d) The modernisation of port facilities includes the addition of container handling equipment at Jawaharlal Nehru and container handling facilities developed at Cochin and Calcutta modern oil handling facilities developed at New Mangalore and Mumbai Ports, replacement of old submarine piplines undertaken at Mumbai new oil jetties taken up for construction at Kandla and Visakhapatnam state of the art mechanised coal handling facilities under implementation at Paradip, a brand new Major Port for handling mechanised coal handling facilities under implementation at Ennore near Madras, modern general cargo berths completed at Paradip and Visakhapatnam and new cargo handling cranes with current technology being provided at the ports of Madras and Kandla. Further introduction of modern vessel traffic management system (VTMS) is in progress at the ports of Mumbai and Calcutta. Modern facilitations like computerisation and management information system are also being increasingly introduced